

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 14, 2009, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Entry of the present amendment and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 and 5 remain in this application, where claims 4 and 6 had been previously canceled. Claim 1 is independent.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for a certain informality. This rejection is respectfully traversed. However, to advance prosecution, claim 1 has been amended for better clarity. It is respectfully submitted that this rejection of claims 1-3 and 5 has been overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)) over U.S. Patent No. 5,138,540 (Kobayashi-540) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,068,768 (Kobayashi-768) and U.S.

Patent No. 5,584,568 (Corbasson). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3 and 5 are patentable over Kobayashi-540, Kobayashi-768 and Corbasson for at least the following reasons.

Kobayashi-540 is directed to a variable light distribution type vehicle headlamp which provides an optimum irradiated beam pattern under all driving conditions. A lens drive mechanism controls the position of a movable lens in both X and Y directions so as to respectively control the amount of beam diffusion and beam direction in accordance with the vehicle speed and steering direction.

As clearly shown in FIGs 1-7, Kobayashi-540 discloses a light source 51 with a reflector 53, and a collimator lens 52 (or 2) that receives light from the light source/reflector and provides collimated light beams (that are parallel to each other) to a movable lens 54. That is, the movable lens 54 receives collimated light from the single collimator lens 52.

Kobayashi-768 is directed to a variable light distribution type automobile lamp. As shown in FIG 14 and specifically recited on column 8, lines 44-46, this lamp has a light source 105 and a

collimator lens 106 between the light source 105 and a movable lens 113. That is, similar to the lamp of Kobayashi-540, the Kobayashi-768 movable lens 113 receives collimated light from the collimator lens 106.

Corbasson is directed to a lighting apparatus that has a light source or filament 3 that output divergent light to a first lens 1 which reduces but does not eliminate the divergence of the light. The reduced divergent light output from the first lens 1 is provided to a movable lens 2. That is, the Corbasson movable lens 2 receives divergent light.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, amongst other patentable elements, recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

a lens located substantially around said central axis for receiving the convergent beam; and
means for moving said lens with respect to said generating means.

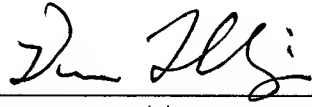
A movable lens that receives a convergent beam is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Kobayashi-540, Kobayashi-768, Corbasson, and combinations thereof.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-3 and 5 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from amended independent claim 1.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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